THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE A.GOPAL REDDY

WRIT PETITION No.25152 of 2000

Date: 25.07.2007

Between:

Ch. Venkataratnam, S/o. Ch. Nageswara Rao

..... PETITIONER

AND

1. The General Manager (North),
   Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited,
   Minarva Complex,
   Secunderabad and another.

.....RESPONDENTS

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE A.GOPAL REDDY

WRIT PETITION No.25152 of 2000

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ORAL ORDER:

This writ petition is filed questioning the demand notice, dated 09.12.2000, issued by the respondents demanding the petitioner, who was given telephone connection for the purpose of running a PCO, STD Telephone Booth under physically handicapped quota, to pay a sum of Rs.4,39,252/-.

The learned counsel for the petitioner submits that pursuant to the interim order passed by this Court on 19.12.2000, the petitioner has already deposited a sum of Rs.1,50,000/-, and that since there is a dispute with regard to the bill amount, the matter can be referred to an Arbitrator under Section 7-B of the Indian Telegraphs Act, 1885.

The learned counsel for the respondents has no objection for referring the matter to the Arbitrator.

In view of the same, the respondents are directed to refer the dispute to an Arbitrator appointed as per the provisions under Section 7-B of the Indian Telegraphs Act, 1885, within a period of six weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. On such reference, the amount deposited pursuant to the interim order and the amount due will be subject to the award to be passed by the Arbitrator.

The writ petition is accordingly disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

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A. GOPAL REDDY, J

Date: 25.07.2007

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